

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please amend the paragraph on page 17, lines 5-16, as follows:

A method and apparatus for reducing power consumption of a clocked circuit containing a plurality of latches is provided. A first latch, within the plurality of latches, is located which has more than a predetermined slack. The possibility of substituting an available second latch, that requires less power to operate, ~~(requiring less power to operate)~~ is then determined, subject to the constraint that the slack after substitution should still be positive, although it may be less than the predetermined number mentioned above. Where such a possibility is determined to exist, the first latch is then replaced with the available second latch.